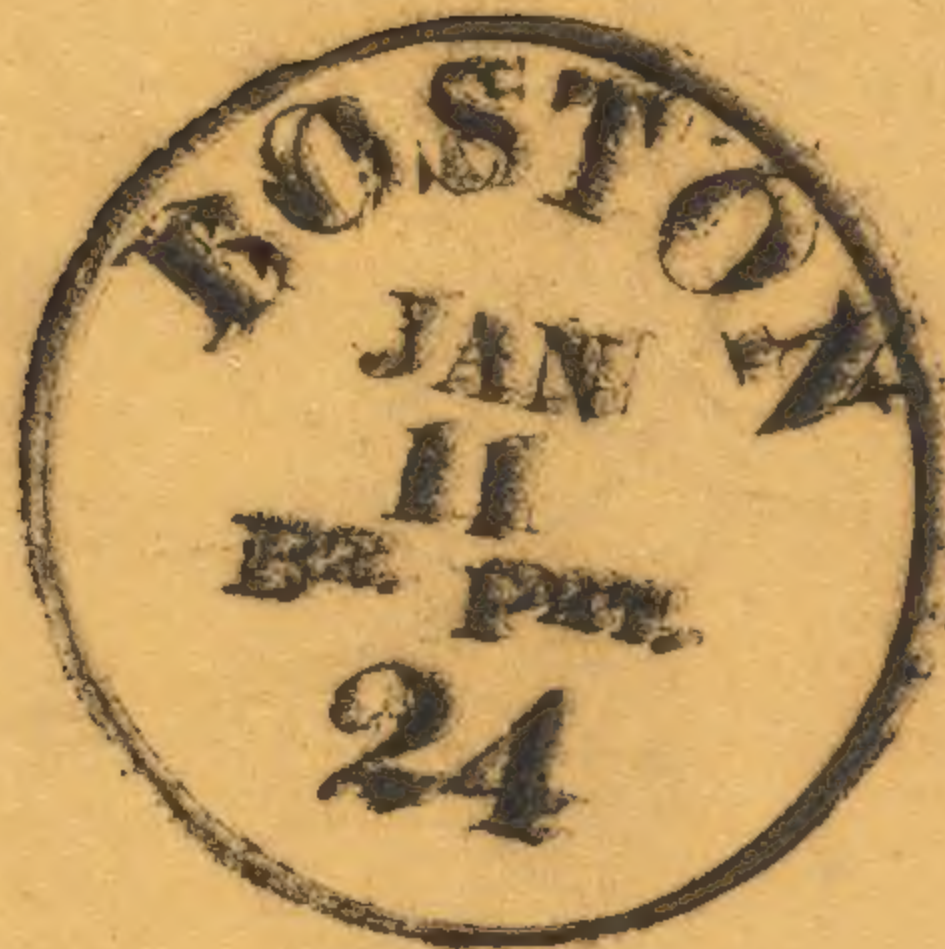


Recd. Jan. 11 / 56.
Ans^d. " 16. "



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CENTS

Rev. Samuel May
21. Canby

Boston,

U.S.A.

X
DEC 26
18

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Dublin 21st December 1835

Dear Mr May

Wm North who is dying of dropsy and feels it has written to me to have his Liberator stopped as he does not wish that his family should have any accounts to settle of this kind when he is gone

John Tipton of Leeds has requested me to stop his Standard - says send me the enclosed receipt, and says that besides paying me on one occasion 16/8 in Dublin - he twice sent 17/- or 18/- by friends to America. He did pay me the 16/8 - so that if he paid the money in New York, his account is settled, for I got 10/10 from him as his balance, charging him for the postage at 5 pence at a dollar a year. He says if there be any more due he will pay it

My friend who wishes to complete his set of De Quincy wrote according to Ticknor's suggestion, but got no answer. He has been informed that even if he got De Quincy's permit, the books would probably not be allowed to pass the custom house. He therefore thinks it better to let the matter drop. In a letter from you that Miss Estlin alluded to read, I observe that you are not quite satisfied with some notes I took

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of secret hunter Radical movement. Now I
could have said much about it, and I think
it likely, I tried to show how intricate an
enterprise it is. But I do not think it
would be right that I should show others an
anti-slavery man is anti-slavery efforts
except those I entirely approve. Whilst my
sympathies are all with you, I want to keep
up my appearance of fair play and impar-
tiality, say ~~what~~ something of what is attempted
by others. You and I may have an humble
opinion of Douglass, Ward & others - but their
views come before the public - people cannot
be always judged by the community on their
merits of which little is known - and when
they produce any thing worthy of notice, it
should be noticed.

For example I am in the great advocate
and in that for February notice at length
Ward's autobiography, giving extracts from it
and saying all that the book authorizes me to
say of the writer. Whilst I express approval of
the good things he writes, I should think I look
on him as no more now yet a martyr - but
in our judgment of books we must not go
behind them to give our opinion of men
private characters - nor yet ought we to leave
them unnoticed, out of what would appear
a narrow and poorly spirited jealousy or party
feeling.

I saw Douglass's My Bondage My Freedom
early and read it through. The first portion
which is more than three fourths of the book is
admirable & I did not see any thing to object
to in it. The last part contains imputations
against his old friends that I think he must
know to be dishonest. Miss Fessenden is putty
him before the public here as a disinterested,
high minded, Christian operator, orthodox
devoted friend of his race contending with the
mean hostility of Slaves of the former party.
But because there is so, & that I know him to
be so sincere & free of bitterness & malevolence,
that I refuse to notice the best book of the
kind ever written by a Slave to show the real
nature of Slavery. I would like your
opinion on this head.

About a week ago a New York Herald
erred giving a report as true that Joseph Barker
died in Philadelphia suddenly after making
a speech of 3 hours at an Anti-Slavery meeting.
None of the papers that have since reached us
have confirmed the report - but the latest date
of any of them is I think the Standard of
Dec. 1. I wrote to his family - but they had
heard nothing but the New York Herald report.
It may be true or may turn out a ~~hoax~~ cruel
hoax. Joseph Barker recent com-
in reference to Stephen S. Foster I thought utterly
reprehensible - but I never anticipated that he
would long continue on harmonious terms
with men of so much individuality of char-
acter as many of the abolitionists. He ~~was~~

to rule and is unmeasured in his language
when irritated. His manner of statement is un-
scrupulous and he has such a fluency of
language that it tempts him into indefinite
extremes. I do not think he has strong attachments
and his self love is very great. So that he readily
falls away from those who differ from his opinion
him. Nevertheless he is often kind & generous &
has great moral courage in the statement
of whatever opinions he holds. He has been ex-
tremely kind to some friends of mine in Ohio
who emigrated about the same time that he
did. I think such men as Stephen Foster
are too apt to use language to startle others
regardless of the false ~~and~~ construction to which
their meaning is naturally liable. This habit
of exaggerated statement - or of statement which
ignores the wishes of it to stop in constantly
and say what he really did mean, would be
fatal to any writer's reputation in their part.
Is not the truth strong enough?

I would gladly give ten dollars for a good book
of Wendell Phillips - but I fear by the time it
could reach Dublin it would cost ten dollars
more. I am glad that such a thing has been
suggested.

I constantly wonder at the wealth of talent &
illustration in the Anti Slavery papers - and
ask what is it all to come to. Surely there were
people so warned as the Americans but it all
seems to tend only to confirm & extend the
domination of the slaveholders. How can
we manage to continue hoping I do not under-
stand.

At Miss Estlin's request I have given her
all my duplicate Liberators containing
her notes of Mr Estlin - except no. 10 of
which I have only one copy. Perhaps
you could send her a no. 10 - and any
future no. containing any of that series
after no. 5. My wife desires me
to ask you to have the Standard sent
to her, forwarded in future to Mrs.
Edmondson, 35, Capel Street, Dublin
Mrs. Edmondson, 35, Capel Street, Dublin.

I am anxious to know the fate
of our Delaware Box which was unfor-
tunately by a mistake of the broker
forwarded ~~to~~ a sailing ship and so
I fear cannot be in time.

I am rejoiced to learn that our
dear Francis Jackson is so likely to
recover. I hope W. L. G. is also on the
recovery. With ever the kindest regards
to all I remain as ever,
your devoted friend

My wife's ever affectionate friend
you think me in the wrong. I know that
you will be the friend of a friend

Yours ever
A. D. Webb

